



Control Number: 50595



Item Number: 110

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Public Utility Commission of Texas

Employee Training Report

Required by 16 Texas Admin. Code § 25.97(d)



PROJECT NO. 50595

AFFECTED ENTITY: South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.

General Information

Pursuant to 16 Texas Admin. Code § 25.97(d)(2), not later than the 30th day after the date an affected entity finalizes a material change to a document or training program, the affected entity must submit an updated report. The first report must be submitted not later than May 1, 2020.

Instructions

Answer all questions, fill-in all blanks, and have the report notarized in the Affidavit.

Affidavit

A representative of the affected entity must swear to and affirm the truthfulness, correctness, and completeness of the information provided by attaching a signed and notarized copy of the Affidavit provided with this form.

Filing Instructions

Submit four copies (an original and three copies) of the completed form and signed and notarized Affidavit to:

Central Records Filing Clerk
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 N. Congress Avenue
P.O. Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326
Telephone: (512) 936-7180



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I. Provide a summary description of hazard recognition training documents you provide your employees related to overhead transmission and distribution facilities.

STEC provides its employees with several documents related to hazard recognition that aid in training. Among them is the Safety Manual, which includes a section on overhead line safety and a Job Hazard Analysis chapter that discusses the hazard recognition process that is followed prior to work being performed.

Personnel in line crews or that are Line Patrolmen are either Journeyman Linemen or are engaged in a 4-year Lineman Apprenticeship Program. The program includes a Transmission Inspection segment that gives overhead line hazards significant attention. The Transmission Inspection portion of the program also includes the following subjects:

- Types of inspections and frequency;
- Wood Pole Line Inspections; and
- Steel Structure Line Inspections.

Those in the apprenticeship program are required to pass 10 tests per year including the Transmission Inspections test. Accordingly, lineman apprentices receive extensive training over several work weeks.

Other documents that are provided to employees that pertain in part to hazard recognition related to overhead transmission facilities include:

- Transmission Line Maintenance Practices;
- Vegetation Management Program; and
- Arc Flash Ratings and Requirements for Transmission Lines, Switching Stations and Substations; and
- National Electric Safety Code.

In addition, pursuant to 16 Texas Administrative Code § 25.97, additional training was provided to employees in the form of a presentation titled Hazard Recognition for Transmission Facilities that included the following:

- The definition of a "Hazard";
- Hazards to report;
- A summary of transmission line clearances;
- Recognition of changes in conductor sag for long spans;
- Activities near transmission lines;
- Right-of-way issues;
- Priorities of reported issues; and
- Record keeping.

Also pursuant to the new regulations under the Commission's rule, a presentation titled Clearances of Overhead Lines was developed that discusses aspects of the NESC and hazards from a STEC-specific standpoint, including:

- An introduction to the NESC sections pertaining to clearances;
- The version of the NESC that applies to a certain line;
- Tables that list the minimum clearances that apply to the ages and ratings of lines in STEC's system;
- Diagrams showing the difference in conductor sags at different temperatures and wire sizes;
- Examples of clearance measurements necessary to determine compliance with the NESC; and
- Diagrams of obstacles that show the way clearances apply.



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Personnel in line crews or that are Line Patrolmen are either Journeyman Linemen or are engaged in a 4-year Lineman Apprenticeship Program. The program includes a Transmission Inspection segment that gives overhead line hazards significant attention. The Transmission Inspection portion of the program also includes the following subjects:

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- Tables that list the minimum clearances that apply to the ages and ratings of lines in STEC's system;
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- Examples of clearance measurements necessary to determine compliance with the NESC; and
- Diagrams of obstacles that show the way clearances apply.

2. Provide a summary description of training programs you provide your employees related to the National Electrical Safety Code for construction of electric transmission and distribution lines.

Pursuant to 16 Texas Administrative Code § 25.97, a training program related to the National Electric Safety Code requirements and overhead transmission line hazard recognition was developed. The training will be performed annually by all personnel involved in the construction, inspection, patrol and design of overhead electric transmission lines including engineers, engineering assistants, linemen, right-of-way maintenance personnel, line patrolmen, appropriate technicians, and certain supervisory and management positions.

The program includes:

- A review of the Transmission Line Maintenance Practices (which has a section dedicated to transmission line hazard recognition).
- A presentation of the 2017 NESC Rules for Transmission Lines that includes a discussion of the following:
 - o Maximum operating temperature and sag requirements for transmission conductors;
 - o Additional ground clearance requirements for transmission lines due to operative voltage, elevation, and electrostatic effects to vehicles below a line;
 - o Additional clearances from buildings and signs;
 - o Mid-span conductor clearances;
 - o Overhead line crossings;
 - o Grades of construction; and
 - o Identification of climbable supporting structures.
- A review of the procedures associated with measuring, evaluating, and archiving overhead line clearance inspections.

Additionally, any personnel involved in the engineering and design of transmission lines will review the changes in each new published NESC.

Affected Entity: South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.

PROJECT NO. 50595

AFFIDAVIT

I swear or affirm that I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this report or am relying on people with personal knowledge, that I am competent to testify to them, and that I have the authority to submit this report on behalf of the affected entity. I further swear or affirm that all statements made in this report are true, correct, and complete.

Cory Allen
Signature

Cory Allen
Printed Name

Assistant General Manager/Manager of Power Delivery
Job Title

South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Name of Affected Entity

Sworn and subscribed before me this 30th day of April, 2020
Month Year

Becky A. Lourd

Notary Public in and For the State of Texas

My commission expires on 6-24-2021